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1962

ANNUAL REPORT
ON THE HEALTH
OF THE
COWES URBAN DISTRICT

BY

JOHN MILLS

M.D., CH.B., M.R.C.S. (ENG.), L.R.C.P. (LOND.), D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health



ISLE OF WIGHT:

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COUNTY HALL

NEWPORT, I.W.

Tel. Newport 2261

To the Members of the Cowes Urban District Council:—

MR. CHAIRMAN AND COUNCILLORS

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report on the health of the District for the year 1962.

The Birth Rate rose from 15.2 to 16.2.

The Death Rate also rose from 12.4 to 14.7.

The Infantile Mortality Rate rose from 0 to 25.5. In 1960 this figure was 19.1, a more general average.

The number of deaths from cancer rose from 52 to 57. Ten of these deaths were due to cancer of the lung, two more than the previous year (7 male and 3 female). Deaths from cancer of the female breast fell from 8 to 3.

One male death from suicide was recorded, and one female death occurred through a motor accident.

During the year five cases of measles only were notified, the lowest on record for the District.

No cases of Food Poisoning were notified during the year, nor any case of whooping cough.

The preventive measures against poliomyelitis appear to be very successful but it is hoped that the degree of protection will continue to be maintained when the terror of the disease has long since passed.

Smoking

As I have said so many times it seems hopeless to engage in a battle against cigarette smoking with the minute funds available when all the might of the mass media is used against you at enormous expense by the cigarette manufacturers.

Death in the dim distance is a prospect which has little fear for the young smoker.

The admired adults smoke (They wouldn't be so stupid to smoke if it was dangerous. It's just another stunt).

"Look at the illogical rules—Smoking in theatres is banned but not smoking in the pictures".

"Anyway more people die from the effects of drinking than of smoking, and they don't say a word about that".

"Why pick on cigarettes, they ought to do something about cleaning the air we breathe as a start".

"What about the diesel and petrol fumes in the towns and even in the country at the week end?"

"They spray tar on the roads by the ton and tar causes cancer".

"Lots of people die from lung cancer who have never had a cigarette in their lives".

Preventive Inoculation: A Citizen's Duty

There are many diseases from which man may suffer, the causes of which are unknown, or if known, not preventable.

It is, therefore, of paramount importance to take the maximum advantage we can of the painless and valuable preventive measures that are open to us.

We may not be far from the truth if we say that preventive inoculation from certain of the major killing diseases is too easily and too cheaply obtained to be accepted at their true worth.

Nobody in this country or for that matter in the world need have smallpox. Free smallpox vaccination is available from infancy and those who do not take advantage of the offer are indulging in a reckless act of neglect which can, and indeed in recent years has, brought death and disfiguration to those nearest and dearest to them.

It is a matter of common sense to be vaccinated against smallpox and indeed not vaccinated just once in a lifetime but have the procedure repeated from time to time, to gain the full benefit of this important immunity.

As things are at the moment, there is a disturbing tendency to let one's protection slide. Then when a case of smallpox steps through the fairly strong port barrier, panic vaccinations are sought and crises to meet the sudden overwhelming demand create a situation which need never arise.

It is obviously a matter of duty to oneself, one's family and the community in which we live to protect ourselves as completely as possible against all the diseases in which medical research has made protection possible.

Do not let successful expensive medical research be cast aside and ignored.

Refuse Disposal

Existing means of refuse disposal call for a review of the position. One of the difficulties is the sparseness of available covering materials so that nuisances arise from fire, flies and rats.

We know that the best method of refuse disposal is by means of incineration but there are many problems to be solved from a financial point of view if a central incinerator to serve the whole Island is ever to become a practical solution.

Noise

It is becoming increasingly clear that noise can play a large part in producing ill-health and especially mental ill-health. It is certain that human noise thresholds vary. What is acceptable, or even pleasant to one ear can be disturbing and cause varying degrees of tension in another.

Constant background noises even of high intensity can be rendered at a level below consciousness and in certain instances the cessation of noise or the onset of an unexpected period of quiet can be a disturbing effect.

Forms of transport seem to be growing noisier from year to year and as personal mechanical transport is becoming more common, the calm of the countryside is being invaded by the sounds of the town.

Nothing is more irritating and nerve racking to the sick and even the healthy aged than the raucous sounds which accompany the users of mechanical two-wheeled vehicles, scooters and motor cycles, especially when they are in the hands of young people who enjoy the thunder they can so easily produce by the thoughtless up and down use of the throttle.

Especially at night when sound seems to travel further and seems amplified in contrast to the natural stillness.

The Aged

Year after year one hears the true statement that one of the greatest problems of old people is loneliness, yet very little seems to be done about it especially by those in a special position to help, the young. Contact with young people is

one of the most valuable experiences open to old people. It is more beneficial than any medicine and such contact can be the cause of great happiness and satisfaction to the young.

Here is a gigantic field of useful work in which the young can, and I am sure would be more than willing to help if they could be properly organised.

Chatting and reading to the aged: shopping for them and help in the garden are just a few of the activities which could enrich the lives of young and old alike.

Removal of Persons in Need of Care and Attention

It was not necessary to invoke the powers contained in Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, during the year.

Acknowledgments

I am glad to again acknowledge the understanding and support of the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee. To Mr. Woods, his staff, and Mr. Clarke of the County Health Department I express my appreciation for their unfailing assistance and diligence.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN MILLS,

Medical Officer of Health

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS, 1962

Medical Officer of Health:—

JOHN MILLS, M.D., Ch.B., M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P.
(Lond.), D.P.H.

Senior Public Health Inspector:—

P. G. WOODS, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector:—

D. J. SULLIVAN, M.A.P.H.I.

Clerk:—

MISS P. A. BAIL (resigned December 1962)

MISS P. M. HINDMARCH (appointed December 1962)

Rodent Operative:—

C. A. F. MORRIS

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	5,542
No. of inhabited houses (end of 1962) per rate					
books	...	...	...	...	5,659
Rateable value, as at 1.4.62	...	...	...	...	£250,278
Sum represented by 1d. rate (1961-62)	...	...	...	...	£1,013

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

These are unchanged since the last report.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

Population (Registrar General's Figures)	...	17,000
Live birth rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population	...	16.2
Comparative factor (births)	...	1.07
Comparative Birth Rate	...	17.3
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	...	21.4
Crude death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	14.7
Comparative factor (deaths)	...	0.88
Comparative death rate	...	12.9
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 total (live and still births)	...	Nil
Infantile Mortality:—		
All infants per 1,000 live births	...	25.5
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate births	...	15.9
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate births	...	130.4
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	57
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	Nil

BIRTHS

The total number of live births was 275, of which 252 were legitimate and 23 illegitimate. The live birth rate was 16.2 per 1,000 living; the birth rate for England and Wales being 18.0.

INFANTILE MORTALITY

The Infantile Mortality rate was 25.5 per 1,000 registered live births, the rate for England and Wales being 21.4.

DEATHS

The number of deaths was 250 giving a death rate of 14.7 per 1,000 of the estimated resident population. The corresponding rate for England and Wales was 11.9.

CAUSES OF DEATH	MALE	FEMALE
Tuberculosis, respiratory	—	—
Tuberculosis, other	—	—
Syphilitic disease	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—
Meningococcal infections	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—
Measles	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	4	—
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	7	3
Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	—	3
Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...	—	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	14	24
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	1
Diabetes	—	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	8	20
Coronary disease, angina	28	12
Hypertension with heart disease ...	5	1
Other heart disease	21	21
Other circulatory disease	5	5
Influenza	2	1
Pneumonia	4	4
Bronchitis	5	6
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	—
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3	—
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	—	—
Nephritis and nephrosis	3	—
Hyperplasia of prostate	3	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	—	—
Congenital malformations	—	—
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	10	14
Motor vehicle accidents	—	1
All other accidents	1	4
Suicide	1	—
Other violent causes	—	—
ALL CAUSES	126	124

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis)
DURING THE YEAR 1962

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Food Poisoning ...	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—
Smallpox	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) ...	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—
Pneumonia	1	—	8*
Erysipelas	—	—	—
Encephalitis	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—
Measles	5	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—
Malaria	—	—	—
Dysentery	1	—	—
Totals	7	—	8*

*This figure represents certain cases of pneumonia which are not notifiable.

AGE AT DATE OF NOTIFICATION

Age	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Dysentery	Puerperal Pyrexia	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Whooping Cough	Measles	Meningococcal Infection	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Acute Poliomyelitis	Food Poisoning	Acute Encephalitis
Under 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 and under 2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2 " 3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3 " 4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
4 " 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5 " 10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
10 " 15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 " 25	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 " 35	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35 " 45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 " 65	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS

AGE PERIODS	Totals	New Cases				Totals	Deaths			
		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
0 and under 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 " " 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 " " 10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10 " " 15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 " " 20	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20 " " 25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 " " 35	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35 " " 45	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
45 " " 55	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
55 " " 65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	3	1	1	—	1	1*	1	—	—	—

*Died from another cause.

In addition to the above cases notified within the District 1 pulmonary male and 1 pulmonary female case transferred from the mainland during the year.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE URBAN DISTRICT

The ensuing portion of this Report has again been prepared by your Senior Public Health Inspector, giving details of the inspections and general work of the Public Health Department for the year 1962.

Once again evidence of the increasing work of the Department is shown by the fact that 967 more inspections were carried out than during the previous year, and I feel that the total now presented approaches the physical capability of two Inspectors.

Some further progress has been made with the Slum Clearance programme, unfortunately still restricted by the difficulty in providing suitable re-housing accommodation for the displaced families, particularly single adults and elderly couples. It is now expected that the current 5-year programme will be completed during the coming year.

Three prosecutions were taken during the year, two against an Owner of houses for failing to comply with the requirements of statutory notices under the Public Health Act, 1936, and the third, under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, against the manufacturer of an article of food sold to the prejudice of the purchaser.

In the former cases £10 10s. 0d. costs were awarded against the Owner and in the latter case there was a fine of £10 10s. 0d. with £10 10s. 0d. costs against the manufacturers.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTIONS IN THE AREA

These totals represent all inspections and other visits carried out by the Public Health Inspectors.

Number of dwelling houses inspected (first inspection)	...	...	...	...	...	1,131
Number of dwelling houses inspected (re-inspection)	...	...	...	...	...	1,467
Other inspections (first inspection)	...	...	...	...	...	935
Other inspections (re-inspection)	...	...	...	...	...	1,495
Ineffectual visits	...	...	...	...	...	303
Total						5,331

This figure is an increase of 967 on the 1961 total.

NOTICES SERVED

			Informal	Formal
Public Health Act	...	...	115	11
Housing Act, 1957	...	...	2	—
Food Hygiene Regulations & Food and Drugs Act	...	...	29	—
Factories Act	...	...	8	—
Shops Act	...	...	1	—
Clean Air Act	...	...	1	—
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act	...	...	1	—
Notices complied with	...	...	74	11
<i>Letters concerning:—</i>				
Housing management	...	...	—	69
Improvement Grants	...	...	—	36

DETAILS AND NUMBERS OF INSPECTIONS

Public Health Acts

Houses inspected for nuisances	...	...	1402
Verminous premises	...	...	8
Other insects	...	...	17
Ponds, ditches and watercourses	...	...	56
Tents, vans, sheds, caravans	...	...	658
Animals, pigs, poultry	...	...	29
Accumulations of refuse	...	...	40
Dustbins	...	...	6
Drainage, tested and inspected	...	...	570
Yards, passages, car parks	8

Infectious Diseases

Enquiries and Collections	16
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Food and Drugs Act, and Food Hygiene Regulations

Restaurants	160
Butchers shops	131
Fish shops	...	...	11
Fried Fish shops	...	...	12
Greengrocers	...	...	16
Grocers	...	...	76
Bakehouses	...	...	29
Ice-cream shops, premises and vehicles	...	...	73
Cooked Meat shops	...	...	13
Licensed premises	...	...	28
Wholesale Meat premises	...	...	6
Other food premises	...	...	10
Unsound food	...	...	38

Sampling

Ice-cream samples	...	...	...	...	60
Water samples	...	...	...	...	29

Housing Acts

Certificates of Disrepair	...	...	...	14
Overcrowding	...	...	...	—
Section 9. Inspections	...	...	...	—
Section 16. Inspections	...	...	...	3
Inspections re Clearance areas	...	...	...	64

Council Houses

Routine inspections	...	...	...	102
Applications for Council Housing	...	...	...	170
Housing enquiries	...	...	...	100
Conditions of tenancy	...	...	...	101

Factories Act

Inspections and enquiries (mechanical power)	...	...	...	71
Inspections and enquiries (non-mechanical power)	6

Clean Air Act

Observations and visits	25
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Shops Act

Inspections and enquiries	80
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Miscellaneous

Schools	1
Holiday Camps, etc.	19
Public Conveniences	13
Rodent Control	84
Visits to owners or builders	...	...	...	266
Bathing establishments	...	...	...	7
Searches (Land Registry)	...	...	...	41
Improvement Grants	...	...	...	331
Pet Animals Act	...	...	...	2
Oil Burners (Standards) Act	...	...	...	6
National Assistance Act, 1948	...	...	...	1
Food complaints	10
Fairs	3
Barbers and Hairdressers	3
Police Court	3

Total	5,331
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SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

The Public Health Inspectors continued their general duties of investigating complaints, securing the abatement of statutory nuisances and dealing with contraventions of the Public Health and other Acts. In this connection 682 complaints were received from members of the public.

Particulars of the various nuisances and defects remedied in properties totalling 253 are tabulated below:—

Doors, windows, frames, floors, sashcords repaired	...	...	...	...	...	42
Grates, flues, chimneys repaired	...	...	...	...	...	5
Gutters, roofs and rainwater pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	...	22
Defective and/or choked drains remedied	...	...	...	...	...	61
Water closets and flushing cisterns repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	22
Accumulations of refuse removed	...	...	...	...	...	18
Wall and ceiling plasters repaired	...	...	...	...	...	34
Sinks repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	4
New water supplies provided	...	...	...	...	...	5
Defective walls and pointing renewed	...	...	...	...	...	11
Dampness abated	...	...	...	...	...	26
Septic tanks and cesspools emptied	...	...	...	...	...	68
Vermin eradicated	...	...	...	...	...	4
Verninous bedding and furniture destroyed	...	...	...	...	...	1
Artificial lighting	...	...	...	...	...	1
Hot water supply installed	...	...	...	...	...	1
Protection of food	...	...	...	...	...	10
Decorations	...	...	...	...	...	10
Cleansing	...	...	...	...	...	5
New sinks installed	...	...	...	...	...	5
Yard paving repaired	...	...	...	...	...	2
Dustbin provided	...	...	...	...	...	1
Heating provided	...	...	...	...	...	1
Ventilation provided	...	...	...	...	...	2

RODENT CONTROL

222 complaints of infestation by rodents were made to the Public Health Department during the year and the following inspections and treatments were carried out:

	<i>Private Houses</i>	<i>Business Premises</i>		<i>Council Owned Premises</i>	<i>Agricultural Premises</i>		<i>Sewer Treatments</i>
		C*	N/C*		C*	N/C*	
Initial Visits:							
Rats	346	97	211	98	37	39	64
Mice	71	61	16	25	1	—	—
Totals	417	158	227	123	38	39	64
Re-visits:							
Rats	987	200	153	296	157	2	100
Mice	251	239	11	66	6	—	—
Totals	1238	439	164	362	163	2	100
Grand Totals:	1655	597	391	485	201	41	164

C*—Contract

N/C*—Non Contract

6 major and 215 minor rat infestations and 62 minor mice infestations were dealt with.

After treatments by poisoning, the bodies of 473 rats and 177 mice were recovered and destroyed.

VERMIN AND INSECT CONTROL

Complaints of flea and other insect infestations in houses and other premises have again been satisfactorily dealt with by the staff of the Department by means of Gamma B.H.C. and Pybuthrin base powders and Chlordane/D.D.T. and Dieldrin or Lindane base liquid sprays.

The less clement summer was reflected in the fact that considerably less complaints were received of the presence of wasps nests in the district, only 37 nests being destroyed, as against 116 the previous summer, by the staff of the Public Health Department, using "Cymag" powder.

DRAINAGE

The supervision of all drainage work, whether the installation of new or the repair of existing, is carried out by the Public Health Inspectors.

570 visits were made in connection with drainage installations and alterations and 101 new drainage systems were subjected to water or air tests under pressure.

The co-operation of the Surveyor continues, whereby all plans submitted for Byelaw approval are examined by the Senior Public Health Inspector in order that the design of new systems and method of proposed alterations or repairs are agreed before work is commenced.

HOUSING

An abstract from the statement submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government is summarised below:—

HOUSING ACT, 1957

1. HOUSES DEMOLISHED OR CLOSED						
Demolished or closed as a result of formal or informal procedure						
Closed	...	...	...	...	...	1
Demolished	...	...	...	...	...	—
2. REPAIRS						
Unfit houses rendered fit and houses in which defects were remedied during the year as a result of informal action under the Housing and Public Health Acts						
	...	...	...	...	...	148
3. PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS. FORMAL ACTION						
Housing in which defects were remedied:—						
(a) By owners	...	...	...	...	...	2
(b) By Local Authorities in default of owners						Nil
4. HOUSING ACT, 1957. FORMAL ACTION						
Housing in which defects were remedied:—						
(a) By owners	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(b) By Local Authorities in default of owners						Nil

The total properties dealt with, which have been either demolished, purchased by the Council for the purpose of demolition, closed or in the process of clearance since August 1955 is 116. This includes 16 individual unfit dwellings which have been discovered during normal housing inspections.

The total, therefore, remaining of the original submitted figure of 110, now stands at 10 dwellings, 20 having been excluded by extension of useful life.

COUNCIL HOUSING

The practice of dividing the administration of this work between the Clerk's Department and the Public Health Department continues as in previous years.

473 visits and inspections were carried out in connection with all housing management matters delegated to the department. This figure included 102 inspections of houses to determine their condition of repair, overcrowding, redecoration, observance of Conditions of Tenancy and whether the premises were maintained in a cleanly condition.

The number of new houses built within the Urban District during the year was as follows:—

Local Authority ...	Nil houses
Housing Association	Nil houses
Private Enterprise ...	63 houses
	<hr/>
TOTAL ...	63 houses
	<hr/> <hr/>

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Applications for Discretionary Grants were again considered by the Council during the year.

6 applications were received, 1 of which was deferred for further information, 2 were refused, 2 were withdrawn and 1 was approved for a grant of $33\frac{1}{3}\%$ of the cost of the proposed improvements.

Sixty-two applications were received for Standard Grants, 59 of which were found to comply with the requirements to render them eligible to receive the permitted amount of money for the improvements involved.

During the year the following payments were made:—

(a) Discretionary Grants	Nil	Total cost: Nil
(b) Standard Grants	55	Total cost: £5,816

RENT ACT, 1957

Only one application was received for a Certificate of Disrepair during the year. The Certificate was not issued as an Undertaking was accepted from the Landlord.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no registered Common Lodging Houses in this district.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD PREMISES

The number of premises subject to the provisions of the Food Hygiene Regulations 1955 and 1960 is appended:—

Restaurants, kiosks, canteens	34
Butchers shops	18
Fishmongers, Poulterers and fried fish shops	10
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	16
Grocers	78
Bakehouses, bakers and confectioners ...	11
Cooked meat shops	3
Licensed premises	28
Meat storage depots	4
Hotels and Clubs	14
Confectioners (sweets)	23

603 visits and inspections were made in connection with food premises to which the Food Hygiene Regulations apply.

The following list of items included in informal notices indicates the defects and contraventions found as a result of the original inspections.

Number of notices served	29
---------------------------------	----

Defects and contraventions specified in notices:—

Cleansing enforced	5
Redecoration	10
Protection of foods	10
Wash-hand basins provided	5
Sinks provided or improved	5
Sanitary conveniences defective or insufficient	22
Hot water supplies provided	1
Ventilation provided or improved	2
Lighting provided or improved	1
New dustbins provided	1

UN SOUND FOOD

The amounts of various foods which were condemned and voluntarily surrendered during the year under review are given below:—

Tins and jars of fish, fruit, vegetables, milk and cooked meats, to a total weight of	200lb.2oz.
--	------------

Cheese	...	...	...	...	21b.0oz.
Sausages	...	...	...	...	361b.0oz.
Meat and offal	...	...	...	...	1,120lb.0oz.
Poultry	...	...	...	...	121b.0oz.
Fish	...	...	...	...	201b.0oz.
Dried Fruit	...	...	...	...	201b.0oz.
					<hr/>
					1,410lb.2oz.
					<hr/>

Making a total of 12 cwts., 2 qr., 10lbs., 2oz.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

Ice Cream

The number of premises registered in this district for the manufacture, storage and sale of ice-cream is now 110. This number includes 2 manufacturers who produce a "complete cold-mix" product.

Seven new registrations were made during 1962.

Sixty samples of ice-cream were taken for bacteriological examination, the results of which were as follows:—

Grade I	...	...	41 samples
Grade II	...	...	9 samples
Grade III	...	...	3 samples
Grade IV	...	...	7 samples

Of the seven Grade IV results shown above, four were from samples of Soft Ice-Cream.

Following the first unsatisfactory result a thorough investigation into the general cleanliness of premises and apparatus left doubt as to the purity of the mixture from which this Ice-cream was manufactured. As the mixture was produced outside this district and received in sealed containers, after which it was merely passed through a Soft Ice-Cream machine, the producing firm were asked to investigate their commodity both at the point of issue and during transport.

As a result, alterations were made in the method of transport in that refrigerated containers were used, after which no further unsatisfactory samples were obtained.

Two of the remaining Grade IV samples were of "complete cold-mix" ice-cream, the first obtained during the course of routine sampling and the second taken from the same retailer as a check sample, were both found to have been re-constituted from one particular batch of ice-cream powder.

No pathogenic organisms were identified in either case and further check was impossible as all the powder had by then been used.

The seventh unsatisfactory sample appeared to be the result of long-storage.

The Grade III results were little removed from satisfactory insofar that, particularly during late summer such findings could possibly be attributed to air-borne pollens of flowers and grasses, which, although affecting the Methylene Blue test, are pathogen free and in no way injurious to health.

FOOD AND DRUGS SAMPLING

For the period from April 1962 to March 1963, the following samples of food and drugs were taken in the Cowes area by the Isle of Wight County Council, who are the Food and Drugs Authority:—

<i>Article Sampled</i>	<i>No. of samples obtained</i>	<i>Samples adulterated or otherwise irregular</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
Milk (a)	61	16	Failed meth. blue test
Milk (b)	20	1	Deficient in fat
Biscuits	2	—	
Condensed milk	1	—	
Ice-cream	5	—	
Instant Whip	1	—	
Meat products	2	1	Deficient in meat content
Potato flakes	1	—	
Pure Raspberry Syrup	1	—	
Salad cream	2	—	
Viennese Coffee with Rum flavour	1	1	Label unsatisfactory
	—	—	
	97	19	
	==	==	

Milk (a) taken for heat treatment and/or keeping quality tests;

Milk (b) taken for compositional quality test.

I am indebted to the Sampling Officer of the Isle of Wight County Council for these figures.

SHOPS ACT, 1950

There are 314 shops in this district, and the keeping of a register of such premises is a legal obligation.

Eighty Shops Act inspections were made during the year which included evening and Sunday observations in connection with "Hours of Closing". In this connection the Council exercise delegated powers from the Isle of Wight County Council.

The one informal notice served on a shop-keeper was in connection with a minor infringement of the law and it was not found necessary to resort to formal action.

WATER SUPPLY

The mains water supply to the Cowes area is derived solely from the Isle of Wight Water Board, an authority upon which all local authorities on the Island have representation.

The sources of this supply remain as previously, mainly from the wells and boreholes in the chalk and green sand at Carisbrooke and the Bowcombe Valley, supplemented by approximately 20% per day from the local deep well at Broadfields Pumping Station.

Analyses of local water supplies show no evidence of plumbo-solvent action and no special precautions are therefore considered necessary.

There are 5,659 dwelling houses in the area with a population of 17,000, all of which are supplied from the mains.

Samples for bacteriological analysis continue to be taken regularly by the staff of the Water Board and results sent to the Public Health Department. Where considered necessary check samples as taken by the Public Health Inspectors. The source of the supplies to the sub-areas included in the table below is subject to variation. The results of the 105 samples taken were:—

				<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Suspicious</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>	<i>Total</i>
West Cowes							
Broadfields Well	...	...	7	1	—	8
Low Level Area	...	...	21	6	—	27
Tower Area	...	...	17	1	4	22
Newport Road Filtered							
water area	...	...	16	—	—	16
East Cowes							
Tower area	...	...	10	1	—	11
Reservoirs area	...	...	12	—	—	12
Newport supply area	...	...	9	—	—	9

It will be seen that of the total 105 samples taken, only 4 were classified as Unsatisfactory, and subsequent check samples from these produced satisfactory results.

SWIMMING AND PADDLING POOL

There are no swimming pools in the District open to the general public, the only pool being in the grounds of Gurnard Pines Holiday Camp, which is in continuous use by the camp visitors during the summer season and is also used for swimming instruction to the pupils of two local schools by the Isle of Wight Education Authority, by permission of the camp owners.

Eight water samples were taken for bacteriological examination, six of which gave satisfactory results. With one exception, when two samples taken at the same time from the deep and shallow ends of this pool were found to be unsatisfactory, the filtration and chlorination plant worked efficiently throughout the season. Investigation immediately followed receipt of these unsatisfactory results, and it was found that a partially choked chlorine feed into the recirculatory system had resulted in an insufficient quality of chlorine being injected into the supply. This was at once rectified and check samples produced satisfactory analyses.

There is a children's paddling pool at this camp and another at a Caravan Camp. Both are fed from the Isle of Wight Water Board mains, and are suitably chlorinated.

At the former site 3 of the 4 samples taken produced satisfactory results, the fourth being taken on the same date as the two from the Swimming Pool described above and resulting from the same cause. Two of the three samples from the latter proved satisfactory. The one unsatisfactory sample was found to have been caused by a mechanical breakdown of the chlorine feed to the pool, and as this was in September the pool was drained and not subsequently used.

There is a third paddling pool, on East Cowes Esplanade, and owned by the Local Authority.

Hand-chlorination of the sea water in the pool, by the daily addition of "Chloros" fluid was followed by Lovibond Comparator tests to ascertain the residual chlorine content which averaged approximately 0.4 parts per million, and proved effectual throughout the summer season.

Ten samples were taken for bacteriological examination. Unfortunately one bottle was broken in transit by rail and boat to the Laboratory, but the nine tested samples all produced satisfactory results.

CARAVAN SITES

With two exceptions, all site operators are proceeding to comply with the requirements of the conditions specified in the site licences issued under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, by the Local Authority.

All major works at these sites, such as the provision of sanitary conveniences, hand-washing and laundry facilities, showers, etc., have been carried out, and the less important provisions such as footpaths, hard-standings for caravans and surfaced car-parking areas are proceeding.

Of the two exceptions, one has been delayed due to revision of the original plan for the site layout and the other, owing to delayed agreement between the operator and the Town Planning Authority on the permissible number of caravans for the site.

MILK SUPPLIES

The following registrations and licences were operative during the year:—

Registration as Distributor of Milk	...	...	38
Registration of Premises used as a Dairy	...		4
Dealer's Licence authorising the use of the Special Designation "Tuberculin Tested"	...	...	43
Dealer's Licence authorising the use of the Special Designation "Pasteurised"	...	...	15
Dealer's Licence authorising the use of the Special Designation "Sterilised"	...	...	1
Supplementary Licence authorising the use of the Special Designation "Tuberculin Tested"	...		4
Supplementary Licence authorising the use of the Special Designation "Pasteurised"	...	...	5

FOOD AND DRUGS (MILK AND DAIRIES) ACTS, 1944 URBAN DISTRICT OF COWES

Samples of milk were taken during the year from herds whose milk is retailed raw without heat treatment. These samples were examined at the Public Health Laboratory, Portsmouth, for the presence of live Tubercle Bacilli.

Number of samples taken for T.B. during 1962	...	83
Number of samples found to be positive	...	Nil
Number of samples in which <i>Brucella Abortus</i> was isolated	...	Nil

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Local Authorities or "District Councils" as they are termed under the Factory Act, 1937, are responsible for administering the provisions relating to:—

Sanitary conveniences in all types of factories;

Cleanliness, overcrowding, temperature and ventilation in non-mechanical power factories; and

Homework (Outworkers)—Condition of premises in relation to health of outworkers.

A summary of the information required by the Ministry is tabulated below:—

PART I OF THE ACT

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	4	6	1	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	77	71	2	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	3	—	—	—
Total	84	77	3	—

2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they are reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	1	1	—	1	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	3	3	—	3	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	4	4	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
Total	8	8	—	4	—

PART VIII OF THE ACT

OUTWORK. (Section 110 (1) (c) (2))

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Lampshades	57	—	—	—	—	—
Other classes of work	5	—	—	—	—	—
Total	62	—	—	—	—	—

